

Horse Sense



MAKE
YOUR HORSE
FEEL LIKE
WORKING

CALENDAR—1927

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MAY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	NOV.	1	2	3	4	5
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We are indebted to Mr. Wayne Dinsmore, Secretary of the Horse Association of America, for his co-operation in compiling the facts contained in this booklet.

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The mark to look for on Hames

Make Your Horse Feel Like Working

THIS booklet was prepared to give teamsters and horse owners information on how to fit their harness; particularly the Collar and Hames which cause so much trouble. It also contains information relative to the kind and size of Hames to be used for various jobs, and recommendations regarding the proper angle of the traces.

To secure full efficiency from your horse, the harness must be perfectly fitted and the right harness must be used for the job in hand. The chief factors are a correct style of Hame and a properly fitted collar.

Every owner of horses is entitled to all that each horse can give, and he will take pride in seeing them work comfortably on heavy pulls. Horses must feel comfortable to work up to their maximum and if well and intelligently handled in this respect, they will produce a saving in unit cost which will greatly increase the profits by the end of the year.

Presented with the compliments of

U. S. HAME COMPANY

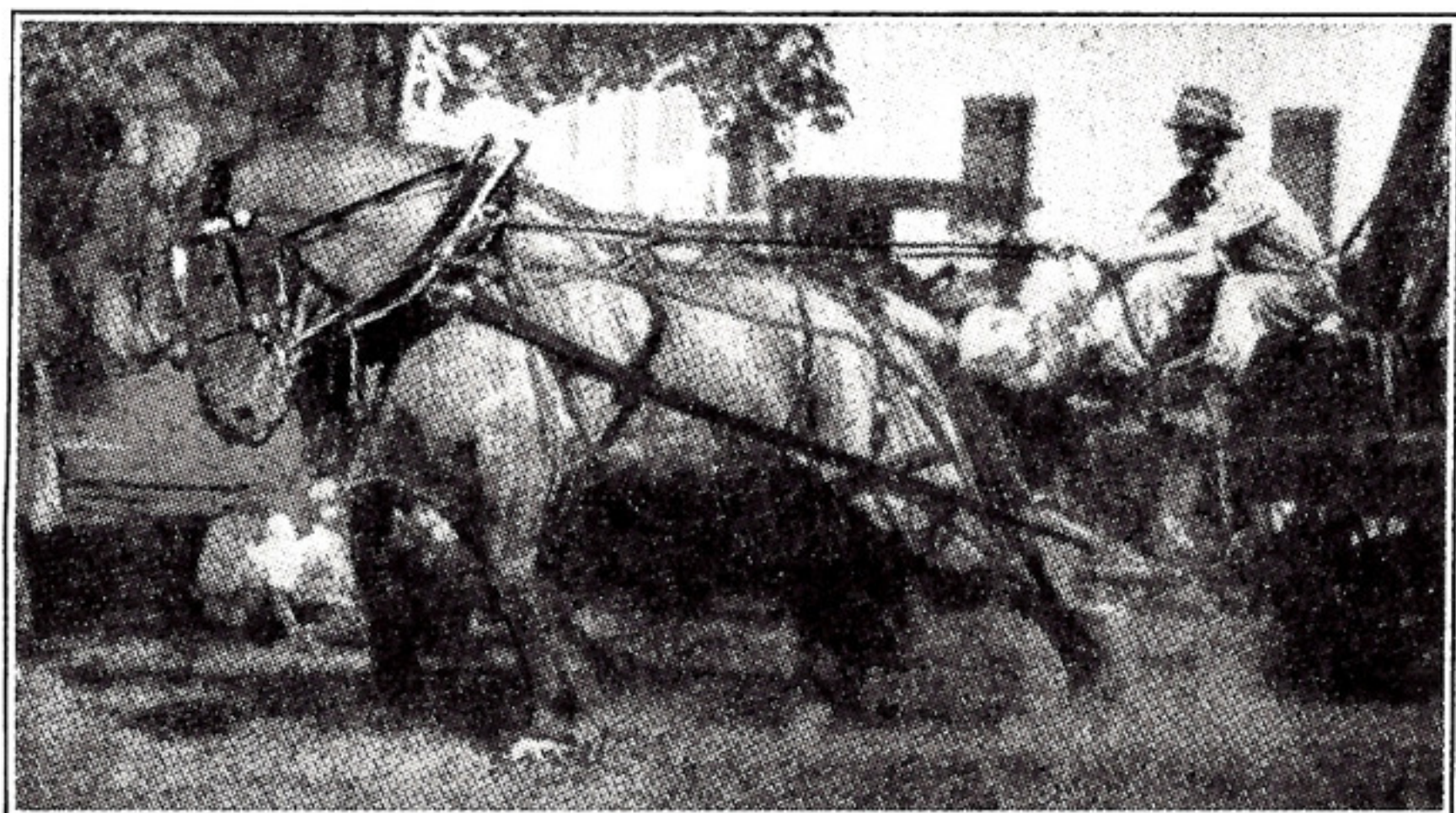
BUFFALO, N. Y.

FITTING THE COLLAR

THE horse that works in a properly fitted collar is comfortable and willing to work. If your shoes pinch your feet you can't walk very far, and a collar affects the horse in about the same way. A collar that is too large will gall the shoulder and chafe the neck. If too small, it will choke the horse and keep him from pulling.

In selecting a horse collar, examine first, the shoulder of the horse. If the horse is thick thru the upper portion of the neck, which is quite frequent in heavy draft horses, a collar known as a "half sweeny" collar should be used. In some cases it may be necessary to use a "full sweeny." These are collars which are less fully padded at this point than they are farther down on the collar opposite the shoulder.

After the collar has been selected, it should be placed in position and buckled snugly at the top until it fits closely to the upper part of the neck. There should be room enough between the neck and the sides of the collar to permit your hand to be run down one side of the collar when the collar is pressed back against the horse's shoulder. Do not permit more space than this because a collar that is too wide brings pressure too far out on the edge of the shoulders causing sores on the outer edge of the shoulder. On the other hand, if the collar fits too snugly to the neck, it will tend to chafe the horse's neck at the junction of the shoulder and the neck.



A horse choked with a small collar and working with Hames where the draft is above the Pivot Point

The length of the collar is of prime importance as proved in the recent pulling contests where 25-30% of the teams had been fitted with collars that were too short to permit the horse to exert a maximum pull for any considerable distance.

To get the correct length of the collar, proceed as follows: Place the collar on the horse with Hames and traces attached and have a man exert some pull on the traces while the horse walks, or, if this is not convenient, the same result may be gained by having a man on each side of the horse to pull down and press back on the collar. The object is to get the collar firmly seated against the shoulder. When so seated by pressure there should be $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches space between the bottom of the collar and the neck of the horse. *If the collar is too short the horse will choke under a load and if too long, it will bring the draft of the hames too low.*

FITTING THE HAMES

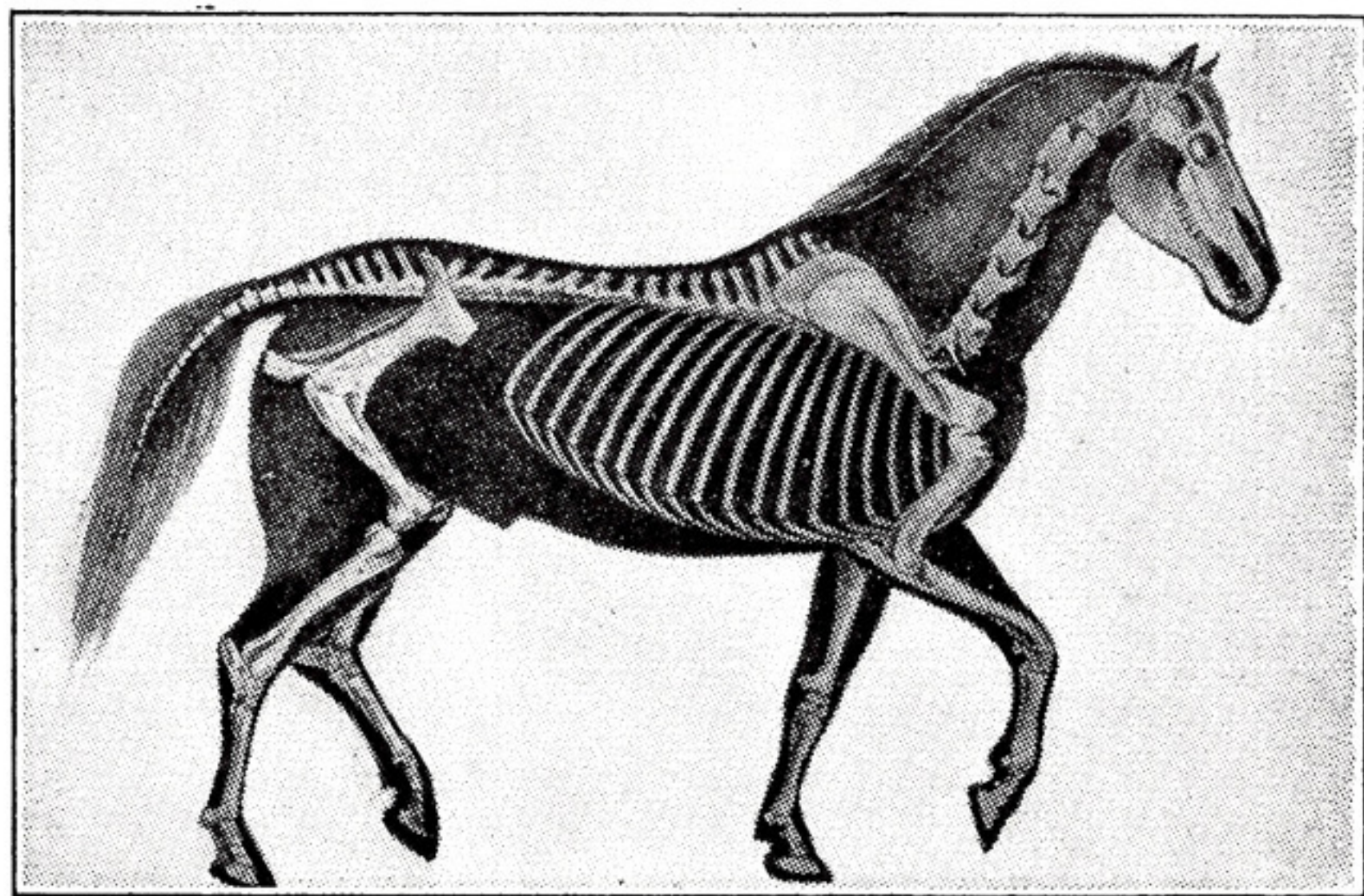
Many experienced teamsters claim that poorly fitted Hames cause more sore

shoulders than improperly fitted collars. Even tho the collar fits perfectly, the Hames will also cause trouble if not correctly adjusted.

The shoulder bone of a horse is attached to the body by muscles and ligaments and there is more or less motion in all parts of the shoulder blade when they are walking or trotting. There is, however, one point on the shoulder which moves less than any other and this is called the *pivot point*. The pivot point is the point where the draft of the Hames should be when the horse is pulling.

The exact distance of the pivot point from the bottom of the shoulder varies on different horses. On a horse with a short straight shoulder, the pivot point is lower than on the horse with a long sloping shoulder. The best way to find this spot is to walk along beside the horse with the hand on the shoulder and you will readily find the point where the least motion takes

(Continued on page 12)



The Pivot Point is practically at the point where the neck and shoulder blade seem to meet in this illustration

See Table
of Hame
Recommend-
ations
on
next page



Nos. 5, 8, 10
(Concord High Top)



Nos. 5, 8, 10
(Concord Dandy)



No. 61, 161



No. 568



Scotch

HAME RECOMMENDATIONS

TYPE OF WORK	WEIGHT OF HORSE	NORTHEAST	CENTRAL WEST	SOUTH	PACIFIC COAST
Light Delivery .	1000-1400 lbs.	Concord Dandy	Dandy and Nos. 501, 500, 155, 156, 460	Nos. 61, 161, 155 501, 500	Dandy and Nos. 500, 501
Light Hauling .	1200-1500 lbs.	No. 10 Dandy and Scotch	Nos. 8-10 Dandy, Scotch Nos. 920, 500, 522 and Steel Clad	Nos. 61, 522, 500 920	Dandy and Nos. 500, 522, 568, 920 Steel Clad
Heavy Hauling .	1600-2100 lbs.	No. 12 Dandy and Scotch	No. 12 Dandy, Scotch Nos. 920, 524, 568	Scotch and Nos. 920, 31, 524, 67	Scotch, Concord Dandy Nos. 524, 568, 920
Farm	1000-1200 lbs.	Nos. 5-8 Concord High Top	Nos. 5-8 Concord 568 High Top	Nos. 61, 161, 561 High Top	Nos. 5-8 Concord, 568 High Top
Farm	1200-1500 lbs.	Nos. 8-12 Concord High Top	Nos. 8-12 Concord High Top	Nos. 31, 312, 314 High Top	Nos. 8-12 Concord High Top

HAME RECOMMENDATIONS

THE old original Concord Hames fit the collar better than any Hames ever made. Your horses will pull a larger load if your harness is equipped with Concord Hames than with any others, and will do it much easier and with fewer sore shoulders.

The Concord Hame has a larger bearing surface on the collar than any other Hame and when once "seated" in the collar forms the best support known with which to pull a load.

For the past few years there has been a great tendency among the harness makers (which has been passed along to the farmer) to put some kind of a Ball Top Hame on farm harness. This is all wrong. There is no need or reason for Ball Top Hames. In fact, they are a detriment, especially in general farm work and lumber operations.

By using a plain Concord Hame, without Balls, you should be able to save from one to two dollars per set of harness. While this seems but a small item, yet it is the constant accumulation of small economies here and there, which boost up the profit column at the end of the year. Hence, if the farmer saves in all things in proportion to what he can save on a set of harness, he will be able to produce his wheat and corn for less money, thereby enabling him to sell at standard prices with greater profit or to meet highly competitive prices and still make a fair profit.



No. 500



Nos. 522, 524
(Red Band)



No. 920



No. 561



No. 501



No. 92
(Steel Clad)

AVERAGE COLLAR SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE VARIOUS SIZES OF HORSES

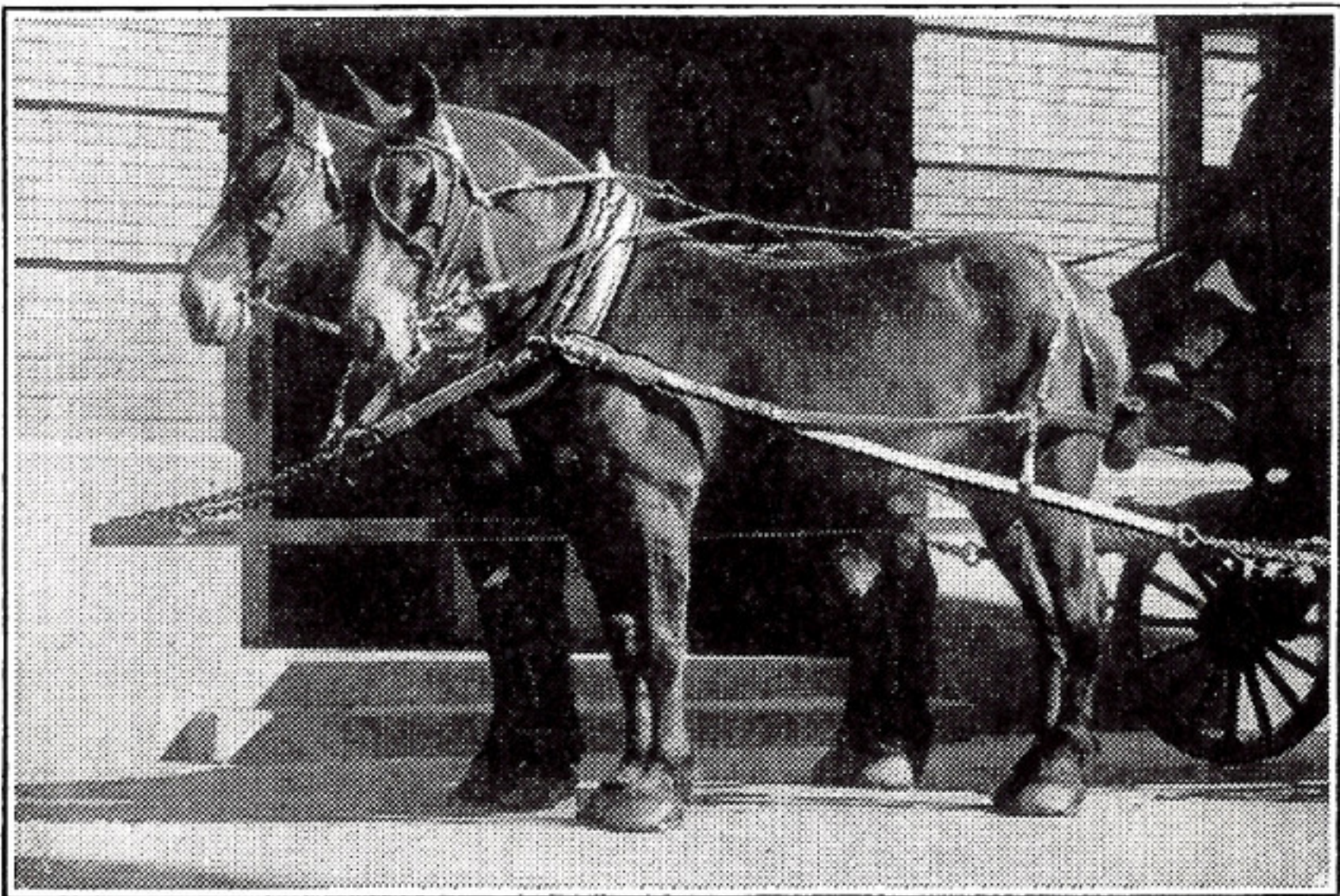
Weight of Horse	Height	Slope of Shoulder	Length of Collar	Width of Collar at Widest Point	Width of Collar 8 Inches from Top	Breed of Horse	Distance from Bottom of Collar to Line Pass- ing Thru Tug Hitch Lines	Per Cent Distance from Bottom to line of Draft is to Total Length of Collar
1000	15-1	Medium	18"	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Roadster	6"	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %
1225	15-3	Medium	18"	8"	7"	Percheron	6"	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %
1420	16-2	Medium	21"	9"	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Clyde	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	34.44%
1580	15	Medium	22"	9"	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Belgian	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	29.54%
1825	16-2	Straight	22 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	9 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	Percheron	7"	31.11%
1900	17-2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Fairly Good	25 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Clyde	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	21.56%
2000	17-2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Good	26 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Clyde	6"	22.85%
2050	17-2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Medium	26"	11"	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Clyde	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	20.19%
2100	17-1	Straight	25"	11"	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Percheron	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	30.0%
2100	18	Good	27 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	11 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	10"	Clyde	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	19.81%
2150	18	Good Slope	28 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	9"	Clyde		
2160	17-3	Good	27"	12 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Clyde	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	24.07%

place. The pivot point will usually be located from three to eight inches from the lower point of the shoulder.

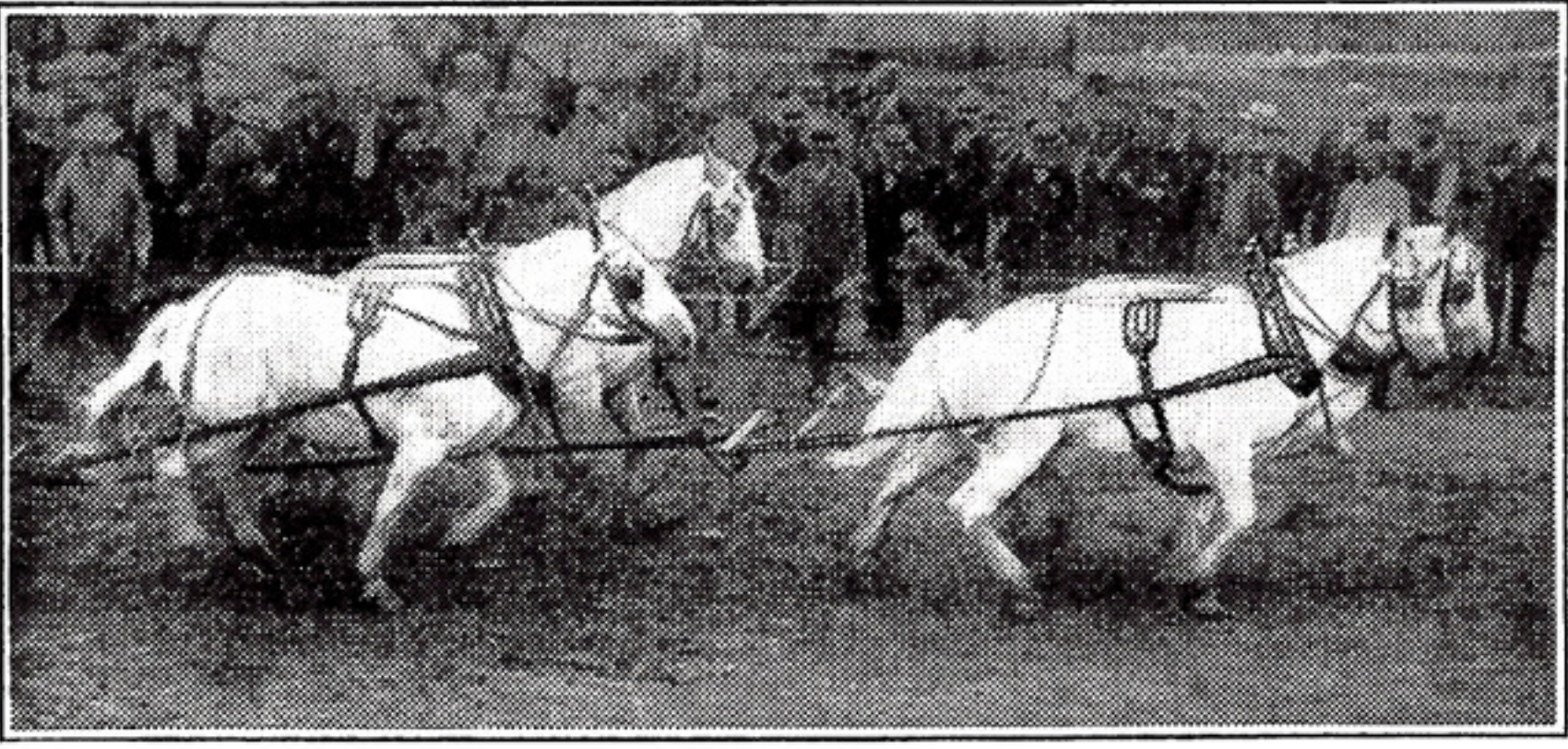
The draft on the Hame should be directly over this pivot point. Better results will be obtained by having the draft fall a little below the pivot point than above because as the horse settles into the collar, the tendency is to pull the collar up on the shoulder slightly.

After the Hame has been fitted as accurately as possible to the collar, the shoulder should be watched very carefully for the first five or six days of work. If there is evidence of chafing below the pivot point, either the Hame is too short or the draft must be raised on the Hame. If there is no adjustment on the Hame and the Hame fits the collar snugly from the bottom up to and above the pivot point, the only recourse is to get a larger Hame, which will bring the point of draft higher on the collar.

Sores on the upper part of the shoulder



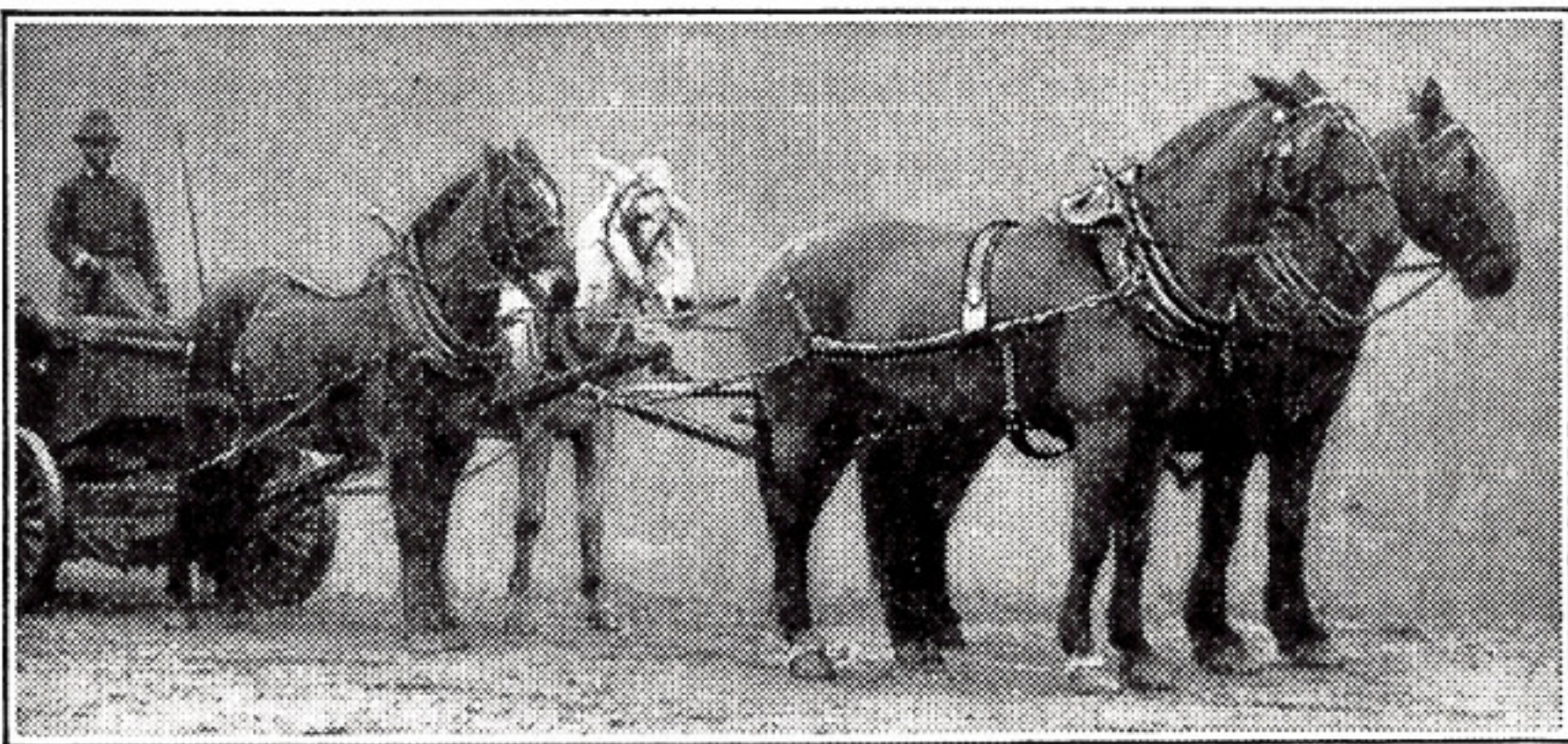
Short Hames bring the draft below the Pivot Point



Proper use of belly band and back strap to get the correct angle of draft. The draft is exactly over Pivot Point in this picture

may be caused in two ways. First, if the Hame is too short and has been extended to fit the collar by lengthening the top Hame strap, it may cause the top of the collar to spread in such a way that it will rub the upper part of the shoulder unduly. Second, if the Hame is too long it will bring the draft too far above the pivot point which causes pressure above it.

A Hame that is adjusted properly should fit under the roll of the collar snugly from the bottom up to and well above the pivot point, lying snug against the collar bed for the entire distance. Most authorities agree that sore shoulders are



Improper use of belly band and back strap. Angle of draft is too small, choking the horse

frequently due to poorly fitted Hames or to the wrong size of Hames on collars that are otherwise properly fitted.

ANGLE OF TRACES

In order to have your horse pull the maximum load, it is quite important that the angle at which the traces are hitched should be right, as well as the length of the trace. The angle which the trace makes with the Hame should be a right angle when the horse is pulling.

There are two ways of adjusting this angle. The belly band and back strap can usually be adjusted so that the angle will be correct. If the proper adjustment cannot be made in this manner, then the length of the trace can be changed, which will either increase or decrease this angle as desired.

If the traces are hitched to a very low object, which makes this angle greater than a right angle with the Hame, the pull on the collar will be downward. If the trace is hitched to a very high object which makes this angle less than a right angle to the Hame, the pull will be upward and the tendency is to choke the horse.

It is very important to watch this angle of draft and make the proper adjustments of the harness to fit the job to be done. Last but not least, *always bear in mind that a horse is almost human and will do his job willingly if you make him comfortable.*

CALENDAR—1928

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FEB.	1	2	3	4	AUG.	1	2	3	4
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